

More CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS: The Friends of Old-time Radio had its biggest convention to date on Oct. 20th. Many personalities were present, often with their husbands or wives, including Lee Allman, Ira Ashley, Ralph Bell, Jackson Beck, Court Benson, Ward Byron, Bob Dixon, Bill Griffis, Art Hanna, Clare Hazel, Jack House, Raymond E. Johnson, Evie Juster, Mandel Kramer, Peg Lynch, Don MacLaughlin, Ted Mallie, Ian Martin, Ted Malone, Grace Matthews, Ham O'Hara, Bob Prescott Sr. and his 2 sons, Bob, Jr. and Peter, Rosa Rio, Arnold Stang, Sybil Trent and Vicki Vola. They were all present throughout the afternoon and evening. They socialized with the people, presented 3 radio shows and 12 received awards.

The convention really started on Friday, Oct 19th when 49 people attended a buffet supper. On Saturday the convention started at 9:00 with 34 dealer tables including some manned by Joe Webb (Collectors Corner), Roselle Scaduto (Big Bandwagon) Chuck Seeley and Bob Davis (Buffalo Club) and Don Richardson. Pat McGee and Ted Theodore (SPERD-VAC), Ken Piletic (ORCATS) and dealers Gary Dudash, John Furman, Stu Weiss, Ron Barnett were also present as well as collectors from such states as Cal., Fla., Mich., Ohio, Missouri, Penn., Ill., and Vt. British Columbia and Ontario were also represented.

The movies shown were Here We Go Again, Pot of Gold, Duffy's Tavern, Thanks a Million, It Pays to be Ignorant and others. From 10:30 to 2:45 the workshops were successfully run including sound effects with the Bob Prescotts; acting with Bob Prescott; Shadow slide show with Anthony Tollin; Trivia Quiz with Dick Curland (Prizes were won by Gary Yoggy, David Reznick and Dom Patrissi); Script writing with Brad and Don from Seton College; equipment with Joe Webb; video tape with John Smothers; newsletter with Chuck Seeley. Raymond E Johnson then kept over 200 people glued to their chairs with a scary reading. Raymond was then presented with a special award. JOYCE JORDAN was then performed at 3:30 by 5 of the guests followed by an hour of autograph and picture taking and much informal conversation. During the day a special 1½ hour video tape, sent by Frank Bresee and prepared for the convention, was shown. Cocktail time from 5:00 to 7:00 and then dinner followed the afternoon events.

There were 228 guests for dinner with another 79 coming just for the day. This is a total of 307, 60 more than last year. Joe Webb led the evening activities. Many special guests participated in our 2 radio shows; MARK TRAIL, announced by Jackson Beck, and YOURS TRULY JOHNNY DOLLAR which starred Mandel Kramer with Don MacLoughlin as Harry. By coincidence one of the characters in YTJD was a Mr. Harding. Rosa Rio, who also received a special award, performed as well as always on the piano and Peter and Bob Presscott Jr handled the sound effects.

10 awards were then given out to the special guests. The recipient of the first Allen Rockford Memorial Award was Ken Piletic.

The guests were very gracious in granting interviews and mingling with the people. I want to thank them again for giving of their time to be with us.

Also the committee did a wonderful job. Many thanks to my co-chairman, Joe Webb. Also thanks to Annie Webb, Stu Weiss, and Julie and Larry DeSalvatore.

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A PERSONAL NOTE: We are already planning for next year's convention. Please send Joe or me suggestions, thoughts and comments. If you have addresses of personalities, please send them to me. We are thinking of more activities for Friday night. It will be at the Holiday Inn in Bridgeport again on the weekend of October 4th, 1980. The cost will probably be about \$18. Food costs just don't stop rising. This will include morning coffee, hors d'oeuvres, and buffet dinner...Only two clubs responded to the Allen Rockford Award - The ORCATS and the Milwaukee Club. Very few individuals responded. You have a year now to get your vote in for the second award given next October. Send it in anytime between now and then. If a club sends in a vote, send the breakdown of the vote...Jack Houseknecht, 10 Logan Pl, Box 254, Rowayton, Ct 06853 lost a valuable book at the convention. He borrowed it from a friend. It is the 1947 YEARBOOK OF THE RADIO DIRECTORS GUILD. If anyone can find a copy of this, please contact Jack. He will pay a fair price for it. He will actually pay a reward for the original with no questions asked...If you want an audio tape of the convention, send 2 1800' reels of tape to Joe Webb, Box 267 Centuck Station, Yonkers, NY 10710. Ray Johnson's reading will be recorded separately on a cassette. If you want the cassette, send \$4.50 to Joe Webb. Ray will receive all monies over the cost of making the cassette...Ham O'Hara videotaped the evening radio shows and awards. Joe Webb will also handle sending you a copy. Write him for details.

DEALERS: Last month I asked you to send in names of dealers who do a good job. I have the names of 18 so far including Howard Brenner, George Fowler, Pat McCoy, Rex Bills, Gary Dudash, John Furman, Larry Kiner, Joe Webb, Bob Burnham, Larry Ray, Stu Weiss, Ron Barnett, John Sondreal, Don Aston, Bill Snook, Andy Blatt, Bill Blalock, Evan MacBride. If you want a complete list with addresses send me a SASE. If you have other names with addresses, send them in. Does anyone have information on Virgo House, Radio Vault, RGM Productions.

IN FOND MEMORY: Arnold Soboloff, Oct 28, 48; light and film actor...Eva Puck, Oct 24, 86; vaudeville headliner and Broadway star...Father Charles Coughlin, Oct 27, 88; controversial "radio priest" on the air 1926-40...Nadia Boulanger, Oct 22, 92; French composition teacher who taught many of America's composers...Daniel Ullman, Oct 23, 61; film and TV writer...S J Perelman, Oct 17, 75; humorist-author...Clarence Muse, Oct 13, 89; actor, composer, singer...Celia Lovsky, Oct 12, 82; veteran film and TV actress...Esther Mae Scott, Oct 16, 86; singer and composer...Jane Houston, Sep 27, 88; radio and Broadway actress (Mr. AND MRS.: OPEN DOOR)...Dorothy Arzner, Oct 1, 82; only woman director in Hollywood during 30's and early 40's...Nick Holt, Oct 6, 45; actor...Claudia Jennings, Oct 3, 29; actress...Corky Corcoran, Oct 3, 55; tenor sax solist with Harry James...Paul Dumont, Aug 24, 90; singer, radio announcer (Dir. DR. IQ: MANHATTEN MERRY GO ROUND)...Roy Harris, Oct 1, 81; American composer.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: NATIONAL RADIO TRADER; summer, fall issue; article on Rudy Vallee...ILLUSTRATED PRESS: Oct; article on overseas shortwave network...RETURN WITH US NOW: Oct; article on laughter on radio...SPERDVAC BULLETIN: Oct; lengthy review of "Don't Touch That Dial" by Fred MacDonald. Their library is adding 25,000 new discs...ON THE AIR: Nov-Dec; article on Ed Wynn...NARA NEWS: summer; articles on Minerva Pious, Tom Mix, Bob & Ray...COLLECTORS CORNER: Oct; article on Mr. & Mrs. North...THE BIG BANDWAGON: Oct; articles on Ray Ebeler, Perry Como, Larry Clinton.



IF BOX IS CHECKED, \$6.00 IS DUE FOR ANOTHER YEAR

LOGS: Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Hts, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has a complete COLUMBIA WORKSHOP-26 BY CORWIN-COLUMBIA PRESENTS CORWIN-CBS RADIO WORKSHOP for \$3.00. He also found out that Gannet Press, located in Rochester, had a tie-in with CBS and had detailed listings for WHEC in their paper, Rochester Times Union. Can someone in Rochester research the library and make logs of such shows as GANGBUSTERS, FRED ALLEN, GRAND CENTRAL STATION, DUFFY'S TAVERN, BIG TOWN, etc.

THE TAPE DECK: Pete Hollis says that while double-speeding is not good as a general policy, a tinny recording or other recordings that have problems in the high register can be improved. Pete, who lives at 1107 Robert Rd, Wilson, NC 27893, wants airchecks of the WNYC Storytelling Festival programs...Ray Stanich sent information on a \$65 filter. It goes up to 11,000 Hz on one notch. For a copy of the information, send me a 3A3E.

NEW ADDRESSES: Jim Laidler, 1081 Borden Side Rd #91, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3P4...Jerry Perchesky, Box 732, Aptos, Cal 95003. Jerry wants SHERLOCK HOLMES shows with Rathbone.

HERE AND THERE: New Friends: Joe Clark, 2684 South 17th East St, Salt Lake City, Utah 84016...Diana Cohen, 11 Knoll Ln, Glen Head, NY 11545 wants old radio scripts...Darrell Albright, 1745 Burnett Rd, Topeka, Kan 66604.

Old Friends: Roger Hill of NARA recently presented an award to AAL Inkster for his wonderful job as editor of NARA NEWS. Roger is taking over the duties again...Aaron Sedman, 271 Hovendon Av, Brockton, Ma 02402 recently lost about 3500 shows in a fire and is trying to start over again. Any help?. Aaron is doing an old-time radio show on WBET-AM in Brockton 90 minutes a day, Mon-Sat...Don Koehnemann, 811 Bristol, Westchester, Ill 60153 wants a copy of The Man who came to Dinner with Monty Woolley, J Durante. Also a copy of World's Greatest Jazz Band album of HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SWING...Alma Jezotarski, Hapner Hall, Guest Rm B, Bozeman, Mont 59715 wants copy of "The Little Brown Gingerbread Man" done by the King Cole Trio on one of his 15-minute radio shows. It was written by her uncle in 1935...Thomas Heathwood, 22 Broadlawn Pk, Chestnut Hill, Ma 02167 has 16 chapters of Westinghouse "The Sound of War" and 4 1800' reels of novelty-musical oddity shows in Ex. sound. Wants first generation material only...Sid Rosen, 5 Leila Ln, #309, Toronto 19, Canada has thousands of records on tape from 20's to 50's of all kinds. Wants to trade. Send cassette for sample. Wants Spike Jones, Nelson Eddy..Robert Evans, 509 Ferry St, New Haven, Ct 06513 is interested in cassettes and records in the supernatural, occult, magic, horror, etc....Max Salathiel, 4712 Spiva Dr, Del City, OK 73115 wants to trade video-taped movies of old radio stars. Has Beta and VHS...James Beshires, Star Rt Box 15-A, Reidsville, Ga 30453 is in charge of tapes for his church and would like radio shows on cassettes for the elderly and shut-ins...Gary Yoggy has a Sunday OTR show on WOLI in Corning, NY...Alex McFee, Box 1105, Banning, Cal 92220 has a RCA 77DX microphone, rebuilt by RCA in perfect working order for \$275. Also 2 other more recent microphones and a DBX noise reduction for sale. Alex wants Eric Idle on Dr. Demento Show 10/28/79. Also EARPLAY in stereo for last few years. Also Paul Temple serials, BBC sci-fi, Tom Mix, Bickersons, Beulah, live sports events, remotes with Benny Goodman.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Ray Nemec, 1424 Heatherton Dr, Naperville, Ill 60540 reports that WCEV in Cicero, Ill recently signed on. It shares time with WXOL, a black programming station, which went on in

August. At one time almost all Chicago and Cicero stations shared their frequency with another station. Besides the two just mentioned, WCRW, WEDC and WSBC still split the day on 1240 khz...Ray still wants programs from the border stations of Mexico for trade or sale...Larry Rao says that WXLO-FM in New York has dropped ALIEN WORLDS. He taped just about all of them. CBS Radio Mystery Theater is now on WMCA-AM at 7:07. Sears is still on WNEW-AM at 10:00. Also Lincoln Center Public Library on 72nd Street has a large collection of OTR lp albums. ...HORIZON, the July issue, had a 4-page interview with John Gardner crusading for radio drama today. He often writes for Earplay. If you want a copy send 50¢ and SASE...Rosa Rio will be telecast on CPT Thanksgiving week, Nov 22nd, 9 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Rosa will be interviewed and play selections. She will also reminisce about OTR...CLARA, LU AND EM was revived this summer on station WNUR at Northwestern Un. in Ill...In celebration of the return of MAKE BELIEVE BALLROOM to WNEW, the station broadcast live the Johnny Desmond-Ella Mae Morse show with Sy Oliver's band from Rainbow Room Oct 25th. Other live shows with Bob Eberly, Dick Haymes, Connie Haines and Fran Warren will be broadcast.

LATE MAIL: Joe Webb will cease publication of RADIO CURRENTS with his November issue. There just wasn't enough call for it...My two younger children, Robin who is 16 and Craig, who is 15, had a great time at the convention getting autographs from everyone. I will be 45 on the 25th of November. Jeff, my 19-year old is contracting for Florida TV Cable in Melbourne, Fla. Just thought I would put in a little of my personal life...Craig Snader Jr (MAGIC SOUNDS), Apartado 12-655, Mexico 12, D.F., Mexico has made arrangements with Grundig of West Germany to obtain three products at up to 40% discount. They include the Grundig T3 1000 reel tape recorder; list \$2500.00; Grundig Hi Fi Studio PRO 500 (AM*FM radio, cassette and record player with amplifier section) list \$1600.00; also Grundig Satellit 3400 radio; list \$980.00. Write Craig for details...RECEIVED: WORLD OF YESTERDAY; Oct; articles on Thelma Ritter, The Silent Cliffhangers, June Preisser, John Ebersson, Felix Arndt, Helen Kane...A reminder about Rosa Rio's TV show on public television on Thanksgiving, Nov 22, at 9:00 p.m.. She will play some radio themes with her trophy in view. ...NEW FRIEND: Joe Cameron, RR2 Box 177, Michigan City, Ind 46360. Joe has about 3000 shows...IN FOND MEMORY: Jimmie Skinner, Oct 27, 70; country-western singer and composer...Al Capp, Nov 5, 70; cartoonist and creator of Li'l Abner

Have a nice Thanksgiving

Write if you get work and hang by your thumbs

Jay Hickerson, Box C, Orange, Ct 06477 (203) 795-6261 or 795-3748 \$6